



ANNUAL MEETING AND POT LUCK

Sunday, October 20th

The Friends of Edgewood will hold its third annual meeting, election of officers, and pot luck on Sunday October 20th from 3:00 to 6:00 PM in the Day Camp area. Friends are asked to bring a dish to share - your choice; table service and drinks will be supplied. Save the date and join the fun.

If you wish to nominate a candidate, or volunteer yourself, call Bill Korbholz. Unsure what is involved in a given position? Feel free to call the current Board member and ask.

- **President**, Bill Korbholz
- **Vice-President**, Jan Simpson
- **Secretary**, Laverne Rabinowitz
- **Treasurer**, Bob Young

WILDFLOWER WRAP UP

By Jan Simpson

June 9th was the last scheduled Edgewood wildflower walk. It was another beautiful spring for the docents to share their knowledge about flowers and the various dimensions of beautiful Edgewood Park and Preserve.

There were approximately 900 who participated in the reserved group and scheduled weekend walks. The Y came from all parts of the peninsula, including East Bay, San Jose area, San Francisco. The states of Alabama and Iowa were also represented.

Every October docent training classes begin. It is such an opportunity to learn about Edgewood. Classes include one evening and one weekend half day field trip per month. New docents are always needed, appreciated and supported by the veterans.

MASTER PLAN PUBLIC WORKSHOPS

By Bill Korbholz

Those of you who have been reading these newsletters will know that a significant volunteer effort has been underway for nearly two years to promote the revision of Edgewood's obsolete Master Plan.

In January of this year a draft was completed by the Master Plan Committee and offered to Patrick Sanchez, Director of the San Mateo County Parks and Recreation Division, as a starting point for discussion. Since then, Director Sanchez has engaged Bernadine Ailling to manage the process of reviewing and revising this draft, preparing it ultimately for approval and adoption by the County.

After making some revisions, Bernadine has called for the first public workshop to occur on Thursday, August 29 at 7:00 pm in room 101 of the Redwood City Government Center, 590 Hamilton Street. The second work shop will be held on-site, in the Day Camp area, Saturday, September 14, at 10:00AM. The public is invited to offer suggestions and to voice criticisms of the draft.

All are encouraged to attend these important meetings and make your opinions known. To obtain a copy of the current working Master Plan draft prior to the workshop, contact Bernadine. I hope to see you at the workshop.

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RANGER ROUNDUP

By Lynne Fritz

Yes, the name of my column will remain the *Ranger Roundup*. Thank you for your suggestions, but Kathy Korbholz's *Ranger Roundup* just grew on me. Thank you Kathy.

My thanks to all who have given of their time, energy and talents this summer in the park. A special thanks to:

- All the "weeders", Elly and Ken for their dedication and leadership, and to Ken for his mapping and transect studies. Thanks to these labors, the rangers haul out about a dump truck full of star thistle every week!! That is 2-3 cubic yards of seed source which won't get a chance to crowd out the native wildflowers and grasses.
- All who assisted in trail maintenance this spring and summer. Chris Romano for her many hours and for her special effort to replant native plants displaced during repairs to the Edgewood and Ridgeview Trails.
- The Trail Patrols, Horse Patrols, and all who are helping with the after-hour patrols; the number of violations and after-hour parties is declining. New member Lee Franks is doing almost daily patrols/observations in an effort to identify violation patterns and it is helping. Karla Kliewer developed a Volunteer Horse Patrol trail report for Edgewood.
- Frank Figoni for accepting the job of refurbishing the information boards which will be completed sometime this fall.

There is a new face on staff, Maureen Rivers. She is a seasonal Ranger here through October. Please introduce yourself, if you see her.

Staff has almost completed the season's trail brushing; the rest of the trail surface work will wait until after the first rains. We have started putting in new trail signs along the Serpentine Trail. Please look at them and offer any comments and suggestions. A new entrance sign is also going to be installed.

In September park staff will move into a vacated ranger residence, in order to establish a more appropriate office and maintenance shop. We will keep the space near the rest room as a ranger station and volunteer office so we can all continue to be accessible to the public.

As part of the County's budget process, the Parks and Recreation budget was originally cut by 3%. Thanks to the pressure of the public and the Parks and Recreation Commission, 2.5% was restored to next year's budget. The Parks Division has hired five new Rangers who started August 12th. They will fill vacancies at Sawyer Camp Trail, Flood, Coyote Point, and Junipero Serra Parks. More Rangers in the whole system means more time can be devoted to Edgewood.

I usually work Wednesday through Sunday; come by and say hello!

To Reach Lynne Fritz or other park staff

Phone :

Fax :

Mail: Edgewood Park and Preserve
10 Old Stagecoach Rd
Redwood City, CA 94062

STAR THISTLE MOWING EXPERIMENT

Ken Himes worked with Ranger Lynne Fritz to develop a plan to test the effectiveness of mowing Star Thistle as a means to control this aggressive exotic. They decided on an area in the northern part of the park. They mowed a 50 ft. section, Ken hand weeded a second 50 ft. section and left a third 50 ft. section undisturbed as a control. Ken will be measuring the number of plants at one foot intervals to see which method is most effective.

Lynne and Ken also decided to mow the edges of the service road, where the star thistle is especially thick. Mowing this heavily concentrated area will reduce potential seed source and hopefully reduce the number of next year's plants. Results of both these efforts will be evaluated for future use.

FRIENDS OF EDGEWOOD IN THE NEWS



KPIX, Channel 5 featured Elly and Bob Hess in a recent segment of their Thursday night *Hidden Adventures*.

Reporter Dan Fouts narrated as he was led

through the Preserve by Jean Rusmore, a local writer of books about San Mateo Trails. Elly discussed her 8-year effort to eradicate weeds from the park before they out-compete the native wild flowers and bunch grass. Elly's granddaughter was shown helping weed, but she told the reporter "she preferred hiking."

Several Friends of Edgewood Park and Preserve were mentioned in a San Jose Mercury News article about how volunteers help fill gaps caused by San Mateo County Parks budgetary cuts. Betsy Wallace and Jane Kos were pictured on the front of the July 8th Peninsula section pulling up teasel. As Ken Himes told about Wednesday night weeding, he was

MEMBERSHIP DUES REMINDER

New or continuing members of the Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve are asked to pay membership dues annually to offset the expenses associated with preserving Edgewood. If you would like to join the Friends, continue your membership, or simply make a contribution, please clip and complete this section. Mail it to the return address on the back of this panel with your check payable to **Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve**. With your membership or contribution, you will receive four more issues of the Edgewood Explorer.

Name

Address

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quoted as saying "People realize the budgetary problems, and they don't see a lot of rangers, so they come to help. It is rewarding." Bill Korbholz discussed how many members of the Friends are trying to put balance in their lives by adding a bit of nature. Elly Hess noted how she helped because she and the other weeders saw that the rangers were overworked and spread thin. She was quoted as saying "This is hard dirty work," referring to the removal efforts of exotics which could jeopardize the endangered bay checkerspot butterfly habitat. "We are addicted," Elly concluded.

CHECK YOUR MAILING LABELS

You'll note a four-digit number following your name on the labels we use for the Explorer. This is a code indicating when your current membership in Friends of Edgewood expires. For example, if the number is "9611" your membership runs through November 1996, and your renewal will be welcomed at that time. Please compare this code with your records and if you believe your membership period ends on another date, call Jessie Schilling.

- \$15 Basic membership
- \$25 Family Membership
- \$7 Student/Retired Membership
- \$50 Supporting Membership (includes *The Flora of Edgewood Park*, and the 28-minute video *Saving Edgewood Park*)
- \$100 Benefactor Membership (includes *The Flora of Edgewood Park*, the 28-minute video *Saving Edgewood Park*, and a 16x20 poster-photo)
- In addition to my dues, I am enclosing a gift of _____.
- Please send _____ copies of the 28-minute video *Saving Edgewood Park*, at \$15 each.
- Please send _____ copies of *The Flora of Edgewood Park* at \$3 each.

Particular interests:

- Docent
- Newsletter
- Revegetation
- Legal
- Exotics control
- Trail patrol
- Public relations
- Trail/fence maintenance



UPCOMING EVENTS

- ☐ *Thursday, August 29.* **PUBLIC WORKSHOP FOR THE NEW MASTER PLAN** Meet at the Government Center 7 PM.
- ☐ *Saturday, September 14.* **SECOND MASTER PLAN WORKSHOP** Meet at the Day Camp Area, 10:00 AM.
- ☐ *Sunday, October 20,* **ANNUAL MEETING AND POT LUCK.** Day Camp area from 3:00 to 6:00 PM. Bring a dish to share.
- ☐ *Beginning in October,* **DOCENT TRAINING FOR SPRING WILDFLOWER WALKS.** Call Jan Simpson for dates and details.

THE COLOR BROWN

Although Edgewood Park is noted for its spring wildflowers, it is also spectacular in the summer. As Wallace Stegman says in his book *Where The Blue Bird Sings To The Lemonade Springs*, "Aridity, more than anything else, gives the western landscape its character. It is aridity that gives the air its special dry clarity; aridity that puts brilliance in the light and polishes and enlarges the stars; aridity that leads grasses to evolve as bunches rather than as turf; aridity that exposes the pigmentation of the earth and limits, almost eliminates the color of chlorophyll....To eyes trained on universal chlorophyll, gold or brown hills may look repulsive. Sagebrush is an acquired taste, as are raw earth and alkali flats....You have to get over the color green; you have to quit associating beauty with gardens and lawns..." Come to Edgewood in the summer months and appreciate its golden brown.

The Edgewood Explorer is published four times yearly by the Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to keeping Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve a place for all to enjoy the natural beauty and habitat. The newsletter is produced by Kathy Korbholz with assistance from Laverne Rabinowitz and contributions from many Friends.

Friends of Edgewood Natural Preserve
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Redwood City, CA 94064-3422

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